

Serial No. 10/575,860

Amdt. dated January 26, 2009

Reply to Office Action of September 25, 2008

Docket No. K-0800

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A microwave oven, comprising:
  - a body forming an outer appearance;
  - an inner case in the body having a cooking chamber formed therein, the inner case having a pair of side walls, a rear wall, and top and bottom walls;
  - an outfit room provided at one of the pair of side walls of the inner case, the outfit room having a plurality of electric parts mounted therein; and
  - a convection assembly mounted at one of the pair of side walls of the inner case, that transmits heat to the cooking chamber, wherein the convection assembly comprises:
    - a convection heater configured to generate heat for convection heating; and
    - a convection fan configured to transmit the heat generated by the heater to the cooking chamber, and wherein the convection heater is positioned adjacent the convection fan;  
at least one hole in a bottom of the body;

an exhaust fan on an upper surface of the inner case configured to introduce air into an inside of the body through the at least hole;

an exhaust opening in an upper surface of the body configured to discharge air passed through the exhaust fan to an outside of the body; and

an exhaust flow passage positioned in the body to guide air introduced through the at least hole to the exhaust fan.

2. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 21, wherein the convection assembly is mounted in the outfit room.

3. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a cooling fan on an upper surface of the outfit room configured to direct air downward to cool the electric parts and the convection assembly.

4. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 2, further comprising a cooling fan at a rear upper corner of the outfit room configured to cool the electric parts and the convection assembly.

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5. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 4, wherein the cooling fan is mounted tilted to face a front lower side of the outfit room to direct air toward the electric parts and a side of the convection assembly.

6. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 2, wherein the body comprises an inlet in a front surface configured to introduce therethrough external air, and the outfit room has an opening configured to guide the external air introduced into the body through the inlet to the outfit room.

7. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 6, wherein a cooling fan is positioned under the opening to cool the electric parts and the convection assembly.

8. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 7, wherein the cooling fan is mounted tilted to face a front lower side of the outfit room to direct air toward the electric parts and a side of the convection assembly.

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9. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 2, wherein the outfit room comprises an exhaust opening in an upper surface configured to discharge air from the outfit room.

10. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a flow guide in the outfit room configured to guide air from the outfit room to the exhaust opening.

11. (Original) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 10, wherein the flow guide includes one end surrounding the magnetron, and the other end connected to the exhaust opening.

12. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 2, further comprising an exhaust duct in an upper portion of the outfit room in communication with the outfit room configured to discharge external air introduced into the outfit room to an outside of the body.

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13. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 12, wherein the exhaust duct is extended to a front of the body, to discharge air from the outfit room to a front of the body.

14. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 12, wherein a flow guide is provided in the outfit room configured to guide air introduced into the outfit room to the exhaust duct.

15. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 14, wherein the flow guide includes one end surrounding the magnetron, and the other end connected to the exhaust opening.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 16, wherein the exhaust flow passage comprises a first exhaust flow passage and a second exhaust flow passage, and the at least hole comprises at least one first hole and at least one second hole, and wherein the first exhaust flow passage is positioned between the body and the cooking chamber to guide air through the at least one first hole to the exhaust fan, and the a second exhaust flow passage is

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positioned between the body and the outfit room to guide air introduced through the at least one second hole to the exhaust fan.

18. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 16, wherein an exhaust duct is positioned in an upper portion of the outfit room to discharge external air introduced into the outfit room to an outside of the body.

19. (Original) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 18, wherein the exhaust duct is in communication with the second exhaust flow passage.

20. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 18, wherein a flow guide is positioned in the outfit room to guide air introduced into the outfit room to the exhaust duct.

21. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of electric parts includes a magnetron and a high voltage transformer.

22. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heater surrounds the fan.

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23. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 22, wherein the heater is ring-shaped.

24. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 1, wherein a diameter of the convection fan is smaller than a diameter of the heater.

25. (Previously Presented) The microwave oven as acclaimed in claim 12, wherein the convection assembly further comprises:

a fan motor coupled to the convection fan; and

a heater cover that encloses the convection heater and the convection fan.

26. (Canceled).

27. (New) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 1, wherein the convection heater is wider than the convection fan in an axial direction.

28. (New) The microwave oven as claimed in claim 1, wherein the convection heater is mounted closer to the cooking chamber than the convention fan.